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MAY 25 2004

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JAMES H. WALTERS\*

JOHN P. DELLETT\*  
OF COUNSEL

TELEPHONE  
(503) 224-0115

FAX

(503) 224-7017

patents@occmaln.com

\* Registered Patent Attorney

FACSIMILE COVER LETTER

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DATE: May 25, 2004

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Our ref: A-407 Your ref: 09/920,450

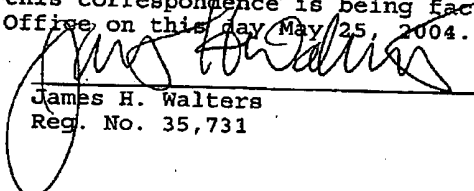
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accompanying RCE, transmittal including deposit account authorization for the  
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PTO/SB/30 (08-03)

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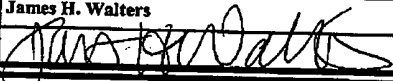
**REQUEST  
FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**Address to:  
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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	09/920,450
Filing Date	08/01/01
First Named Inventor	Yasuhiko KOIZUMI et al
Art Unit	2877
Examiner Name	J.D. Valentin
Attorney Docket Number	A-407

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

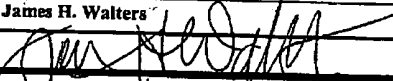
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- a. ☒ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
- i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- ii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
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- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
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- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
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Name (Print / Type)	James H. Walters	Registration No. (Attorney / Agent)	35,731
Signature		Date	May 25, 2004

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Name (Print / Type)	James H. Walters	Date	May 25, 2004
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Application Number	09/920,450
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First Named Inventor	Yasuhiko KOIZUMI et al
Art Unit	2877
Examiner Name	J.D. Valentin
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    - ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
    - ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Miscellaneous**
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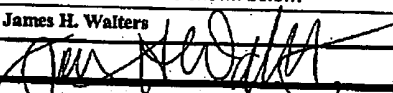
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